

VZCZCXRO0709

PP RUEHBC RUEHKUK RUEHROV

DE RUEHMK #0183 0851356

ZNY CCCCC ZZH

P 261356Z MAR 09

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8575

INFO RUEHEE/ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

RHBVAKS/COMUSNAVCENT PRIORITY

RHMFISS/HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 000183

SIPDIS

BAGHDAD FOR AMBASSADOR ERELI

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/26/2019

TAGS: [PREL](#) [KPAL](#) [KWBG](#) [KPKO](#) [MOPS](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [AL](#) [SU](#) [XF](#)

BA

SUBJECT: BAHRAIN SHARES U.S. CONCERNs AHEAD OF DOHA SUMMIT

REF: A. STATE 28323

[1B.](#) MANAMA 166

Classified By: CDA Christopher Henzel for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

[¶1.](#) (C) Summary: MFA Undersecretary Abdulaziz bin Mubarak Al Khalifa told A/DCM on March 26 that Bahrain shared USG concerns about maintaining commitment to the Quartet principles and not undermining the Arab Peace Initiative. Currently, King Hamad plans to attend the Doha Summit, but developments could lead to Crown Prince Salman attending instead. End summary.

[¶2.](#) (C) Sheikh Abdulaziz welcomed the President's recent comments reinforcing U.S. commitment to a two-state solution, and assessed that good faith action on the part of Israel to address settlements would strengthen Abu Mazen's hand against Hamas. He reiterated Bahrain's support for Quartet principles and the Arab Peace Initiative. He was skeptical of Arab reconciliation efforts, saying that "Qatar has a lot to prove," yet the Qataris were notably absent from the discussions in Riyadh. Abdulaziz said that King Hamad was planning to attend the Doha Summit, but that a lot was still "up in the air." If last minute developments were to cause the King to stay home, Crown Prince Salman would go to Doha.

[¶3.](#) (C) A/DCM made ref A points on Sudan, referring to a recent conversation between Abdulaziz and S/WCI Ambassador Williamson (ref B). Abdulaziz reiterated his concerns about the ICC warrant and agreed that the expulsion of international NGOs could create a significant humanitarian problem. He gave no indication whether the Sudanese had yet approached the GOB for assistance.

\*\*\*\*\*

Visit Embassy Manama's Classified Website:

<http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/nea/manama/>

\*\*\*\*\*

HENZEL